

Message Text

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SUBJ: ITU ADMIN COUNCIL: POLITICIAL WRAPUP

SUMMARY. ITU'S 30TH ADMIN COUNCIL COMPLETED THREE WEEK 1975 SESSION ON SCHEDULE JUNE 27. POLITICAL SUBJECTS CONSIDERED DURING SESSION INCLUDED PORTUGAL, SOUTH AFRICA, CYPRUS-TURKEY, AND FAR EAST MATTERS. PORTUGAL'S MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS WERE RESTORED. SOUTH AFRICA RETAINED ITS STATUS QUO I.E., UNABLE TO ATTEND ITU MEETINGS OR CONFERENCES, BUT STILL RECEIVING ITU CORRESPONDNECE AND DOCUMENTS. COUNCIL CHAIRMAN AUTHORIZED TO CONTACT SAG THROUGH GENEVA MISSION TO ASCERTAIN ITS INTENTIONS WITH REGARD TO PAYMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND TO ADVISE THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD LOSE RIGHT TO VOTE JANUARY 1, 1977, IF IT HAS NOT CLEARED UP DEBTS BY THAT TIME. AFTER RELATIVELY BRIEF DEBATE, COUNCIL DECIDED TO TAKE NO ACTION CYPRIOT-TURKISH EXCHANGE OF CHARGES CALLED TO COUNCIL'S ATTENTION AND TO INSTRUCT SYG TO SEND BRIEF NOTE TO BOTH PARTIES ENCLOSING SUMMARY RECORD OF COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM. CHINESE DEL NOTED THAT RVN AND KHMER REPUBLIC GOVT HAD BEEN REPLACED BY PRG AND ROYAL GOVT OF NATIONAL UNITY RESPECTIVELY AND THAT THESE WERE NOT LAWFUL GOVTs OF MEMBERS CONCERNED. USSR STATED THAT EVEN THOUGH ITU POLL ON NORTH UNCLASSIFIED

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KOREAN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION STILL NOT COMPLETED, NORTH

KOREA, NORTH VIETNAM AND PRG SHOULD BE INVITED TO LF/MF CONFERENCE IN FALL OF 1975. PRC CIRCULATED DOCUMENT REGARDING ITU CONTACT WITH PRIVATE AND SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATIONS WHICH MAINTAIN COUNTERPARTS IN TAIWAN AS MEMBERS. END SUMMARY.

1. ITU'S 30TH ADMIN COUNCIL COMPLETED THREE-WEEK 1975 SESSION ON SCHEDULE FRIDAY, JUNE 27. FOLLOWING ARE MOST SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN SESSION WHICH, BY COMMON AGREEMENT, WAS PROBABLY THE MOST APOLITICAL ONE IN LAST THREE YEARS:

A. MIDDLE EAST ISSUES: THE WORD "ISRAEL" WAS NOT MENTIONED ONCE DURING ENTIRE THREE WEEK SESSION AND MIDDLE EAST POLITICAL ISSUES WERE SIMPLY NOT RAISED.

B. PORTUGAL: FOLLOWING PREVIOUS MAIL CONSULTATIONS DURING WHICH 93 MEMBERS HAD AGREED TO PROPOSAL TO LIFT SANCTIONS AGAINST PORTUGAL CONTINUED IN RESOLUTION 30 OF TORREMOLINOS CONVENTION (PROHIBITION ON ATTENDING ALL ITU MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES), ALL AFRICAN MEMBERS JOINTLY COSPONSORED COUNCIL RESOLUTION RESTORING PORTUGUESE RIGHTS OF MEMBERSHIP. JOINT RESOLUTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY COUNCIL.

C. SOUTH AFRICA: PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 31 OF TORREMOLINOS CONVENTION, SOUTH AFRICA, LIKE PORTUGAL, WAS BARRED FROM ATTENDING ALL ITU MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES. IN LATE 1973 SOUTH AFRICAN PPT NOTIFIED UNION, IN SHARPLY WORDED LETTER, IT WOULD REFUSE TO PAY ANNUAL BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS UNTIL ITS RIGHTS WERE RESTORED. AT 1974 SESSION COUNCIL DECIDED TO SIMPLY LIST SA ADMINISTRATION AS BEING IN ARREARS BUT TO CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN ALL OTHER RIGHTS OF MEMBERSHIP (E.G. SUPPLY OF ALL DOCUMENTATION). THEN, ODDLY, IN JANUARY 1975, ITU RECEIVED OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION FROM SAG THAT PARLIAMENT HAD RATIFIED TORREMOLINOS CONVENTION. THEREAFTER NO FURTHER COMMUNICATION OR CONTRIBUTIONS HAD BEEN RECEIVED AND SOUTH AFRICANS NOW IN ARREARS ON BOTH 1974 AND 1975 CONTRIBUTIONS. AFTER LIVELY DEBATE IN COUNCIL, IT DECIDED TO RETAIN STATUS QUO AND REQUEST COUNCIL CHAIRMAN TO CONTACT SAG THROUGH GENEVA MISSION TO ASCERTAIN ITS INTENTIONS WITH REGARDS TO PAYMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND TO ADVISE THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD LOSE RIGHT TO VOTE JANUARY 1, 1977 IF IT HAS NOT CLEARED UP DEBTS

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BY THAT TIME.

D. CYPRUS-TURKEY: IN APRIL 1975, GOC ADVISED ITU THAT TURKEY HAD SEIZED BROADCASTING AND TELEPHONE INSTALLATIONS OWNED BY GOC AND WAS OPERATING THEM WITHOUT CONSENT AND WAS ALSO BROADCASTING ON SAME AIRCRAFT FREQUENCY AS ASSIGNED TO AND USED BY CYPRIOT AUTHORITIES. GOC ASKED THAT MATTER BE REFERRED TO COUNCIL. TURKEY RESPONDED WITH LETTER CALLING CYPRIOT CHARGE POLITICALLY

MOTIVATED AND ASKING THAT COUNCIL NOT INVOLVE ITSELF IN THIS POLITICAL MATTER. DURING EARLY DAYS OF COUNCIL MEETING, CYPRIOT AMBASSADOR CALLED ON CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL AND ASKED FOR PERMISSION TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ON THIS SUBJECT. CHAIRMAN ADVISED AMBASSADOR THAT THERE NO PROVISION FOR SUCH ADDRESS IN CONVENTION, BUT THAT HE WOULD REFER MATTER TO COUNCIL. ON JUNE 24, PLENARY ADDRESSED AGENDA ITEM NOTING CYPRIOT AND GREEK COMMUNICATIONS. IRAN, SUPPORTED BY FRANCE, GERMANY AND SAUDI ARABIA, PROPOSED THAT ITEM NOT BE DEBATED AS IT PRIMARILY BILATERAL POLITICAL ISSUE. NIGERIA AGREED WITH FOREGOING BUT GAVE BRIEF STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CYPRUS CAUSE. IT WAS FINALLY DECIDED THAT COUNCIL WOULD TAKE NO ACTION ON MATTER OTHER THAN TO INSTRUCT SYG TO SEND BRIEF NOTE TO CYPRIOTS AND TURKS ENCLOSING SUMMARY RECORD OF COUCIL DISCUSSION ON THIS ITEM.

E. FAR EAST MATTERS: ON JUNE 9, DURING DISCUSSION OF ACTIVITIES OF UNION IN 1975 IN PLENARY, CHINESE DEL, NOTING REFERENCES IN ITU DOCUMENTS TO RVN AND KHMER REPUBLIC, NOTED THAT THESE REGIONS HAD BEEN REPLACED BY PRG AND ROYAL GOVT OF NATIONAL UNITY RESPECTIVELY AND THAT THESE WERE NOW LAWFUL GOVTS OF MEMBERS CONCERNED. ALGERIA SUPPORTED CHINESE STATEMENT AND THERE WAS NO FURTHER COMMENT. ON FOLLOWING DAY, ALSO IN PLENARY, USSR DEL STATED THAT EVEN THOUGH VOTE ON NORTH KOREAN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION STILL NOT COMPLETED, NORTH KOREA, NORTH VIETNAM AND PRG SHOULD BE INVITED TO LF/MF CONFERENCE IN FALL 1975. WHEN NO OTHER SPEAKER INTERVENED, SOVDEL ASKED THAT HIS STATEMENT BE NOTED IN RECORD.

F. TAIWAN: IN PREVIOUS ITU MEETINGS, CHINESE DEL HAS ALWAYS GIVEN SPEECH REQUESTING THAT ITU BREAK OFF CONTACT WITH PRIVATE AND SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATIONS WHICH MAINTAIN COUNTERPARTS IN TAIWAN AS MEMBERS. AT THIS UNCLASSIFIED

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SESSION OF COUNCIL, CHINA MERELY CIRCULATED DOCUMENT WITH PRO FORMA STATEMENT ALONG FOREGOING LINES. NO VERBAL STATEMENT MADE.DALE

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